

REMARKS:

After entry of this response, claims 1 to 39 will be pending. Claims 1, 6 to 8, 10, 11, 14, 19 to 21, 23, 24, 27, 32 to 34, 36 and 37 have been amended. Claims 1, 14 and 28 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1 to 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,896,373 (Mitts) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,049,533 (Norman).

Amended claim 1 recites a method including steps of wirelessly sending a message from a base station controller to at least one customer premises equipment. The base station controller is capable of controlling a communication cell. According to the claim, the steps of sending include the following: sending the message from a source within the cell to a first access point associated with the base station controller, and sending the message from the first access point to a destination within the cell. In claim 1, at least the first access point breaks up packets in the message into smaller packets or combines packets in the message into larger packets.

The applied art, alone or in combination, is not seen by Applicant to disclose or to suggest the foregoing features of claim 1, at least with respect to an access point breaking up packets in the message into smaller packets or combining packets in the message into larger packets.

In this regard, Mitts does discuss a multi-cell data structure at col. 1, line 63, to col. 2, line 1. (Mitts uses the terms "cell" and "packet" synonymously.) However, this discussion concerns discarding and retransmitting the multi-cell data structure, not breaking up packets into smaller packets or combining packets into larger packets.

Mitts also discusses combining cell streams at col. 2, line 62, to col. 3, line 10. However, according to Applicant's understanding, combining cell streams is entirely different from combining cells (i.e., packets) themselves into larger packets.

Applicant sees nothing in the remaining portions of Mills that concerns breaking up or combining packets in a message in the manner recited by claim 1.

Norman discloses a system in which access points reroute misrouted packets. The rerouting is not seen by Applicant to involve combining or breaking up packets. Thus, Norman is not seen to add anything to remedy the deficiencies of Mitts.

In view of the foregoing, claim 1 and the claims that depend therefrom are believed to be allowable over the applied art. Such action is respectfully requested.

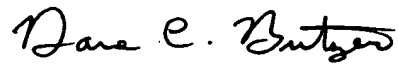
Claims 14 to 26 are claims directed to a base station controller that implements the methods of claims 1 to 13. Claims 27 to 39 are directed to a memory that stores instructions for performing the methods of claims 1 to 13. Accordingly, claims 14 to 39 also are believed to be allowable over the applied art. Such action is respectfully requested.

Closing

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney can be reached at (614) 486-3585. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Changes to Claims

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii), changes to any claims effected by the accompanying paper are indicated below.

Claims 1, 6 to 8, 10, 11, 14, 19 to 21, 23, 24, 27, 32 to 34, 36 and 37 have been amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method, including steps of wirelessly sending a message from a base station controller, said base station controller being capable of controlling a communication cell, to at least one customer premises equipment, wherein said steps of sending include:

sending said message from a source within said cell to a first access point associated with said base station controller; and

sending said message from said first [a second] access point to a destination within said cell;

wherein at least said first access point [or said second access point] breaks up packets in said message into smaller packets or combines packets in said message into larger packets [re-adapts, re-schedules, or re-adapts and re-schedules said message].

6. (Amended) A method as in claim 1,

wherein sending said message from said first access point to said destination  
further includes sending said message from said first access point to a second access point and  
sending said message from said second access point to said destination;

wherein said first access point is located within said cell; and

wherein said second access point is located outside said cell.

7. (Amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein said step of sending from a source  
to said first access point is at least partially wireless.

8. (Amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein said step of sending from said  
first access point to said [a] destination is at least partially wireless.

10. (Amended) A method as in claim 9,  
wherein sending said message from said first access point to said destination  
further includes sending said message from said first access point to a second access point and  
sending said message from said second access point to said destination;  
wherein said cell includes a plurality of sectors [,]; and  
wherein said routing or switching device is disposed so that said first access point  
and said second access point are in a single one of said sectors.

11. (Amended) A method as in claim 9,

wherein sending said message from said first access point to said destination  
further includes sending said message from said first access point to a second access point and  
sending said message from said second access point to said destination;

wherein said cell includes a plurality of sectors [,]; and

wherein said routing or switching device is disposed so that said first access point  
and said second access point are in different ones of said sectors.

14. (Amended) A base station controller capable of controlling a communication  
cell, comprising:

wireless communication equipment including at least an antenna and a transmitter  
and receiver; and

a processor that controls the wireless communication equipment, said processor  
programmed to perform instructions including steps of wirelessly sending a message from said  
base station controller to at least one customer premises equipment, wherein said steps of  
sending include:

sending said message from a source within said cell to a first access point  
associated with said base station controller; and

sending said message from said first [a second] access point to a destination  
within said cell;

wherein at least said first access point [or said second access point] breaks up packets in said message into smaller packets or combines packets in said message into larger packets [re-adapts, re-schedules, or re-adapts and re-schedules said message].

19. (Amended) A base station controller as in claim 14,

wherein sending said message from said first access point to said destination further includes sending said message from said first access point to a second access point and sending said message from said second access point to said destination;

wherein said first access point is located within said cell; and

wherein said second access point is located outside said cell.

20. (Amended) A base station controller as in claim 14, wherein said step of sending from a source to said first access point is at least partially wireless.

21. (Amended) A base station controller as in claim 14, wherein said step of sending from said first access point to said [a] destination is at least partially wireless.

23. (Amended) A base station controller as in claim 22,

wherein sending said message from said first access point to said destination further includes sending said message from said first access point to a second access point and sending said message from said second access point to said destination;

wherein said cell includes a plurality of sectors [,]; and

wherein said routing or switching device is disposed so that said first access point and said second access point are in a single one of said sectors.

24. (Amended) A base station controller as in claim 22,

wherein sending said message from said first access point to said destination further includes sending said message from said first access point to a second access point and sending said message from said second access point to said destination;

wherein said cell includes a plurality of sectors [,]; and

wherein said routing or switching device is disposed so that said first access point and said second access point are in different ones of said sectors.

27. (Amended) A memory storing information including instructions, the instructions executable by a processor to control wirelessly sending a message from a base station controller for a communication cell to at least one customer premises equipment, wherein the instructions include:

sending said message from a source within said cell to a first access point associated with said base station controller; and

sending said message from said first [a second] access point to a destination within said cell;



wherein at least said first access point [or said second access point] breaks up packets in said message into smaller packets or combines packets in said message into larger packets [re-adapts, re-schedules, or re-adapts and re-schedules said message].

32. (Amended) A memory as in claim 27,

wherein sending said message from said first access point to said destination further includes sending said message from said first access point to a second access point and sending said message from said second access point to said destination;

wherein said first access point is located within said cell; and

wherein said second access point is located outside said cell.

33. (Amended) A memory as in claim 27, wherein said step of sending from a source to said first access point is at least partially wireless.

34. (Amended) A memory as in claim 27, wherein said step of sending from said first access point to said [a] destination is at least partially wireless.

36. (Amended) A memory as in claim 35,

wherein sending said message from said first access point to said destination further includes sending said message from said first access point to a second access point and sending said message from said second access point to said destination;

wherein said cell includes a plurality of sectors [,]; and

wherein said routing or switching device is disposed so that said first access point and said second access point are in a single one of said sectors.

37. (Amended) A memory as in claim 35,

wherein sending said message from said first access point to said destination further includes sending said message from said first access point to a second access point and sending said message from said second access point to said destination;

wherein said cell includes a plurality of sectors [,]; and

wherein said routing or switching device is disposed so that said first access point and said second access point are in different ones of said sectors.